UNITED NATIONS

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Secretariat

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INFORMATION CIRCULAR

To: Members of the staff

From: The Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management

Subject: HOST COUNTRY TRAVEL REGULATIONS*

1. The Secretary-General has received from the United States Mission to the United Nations a note verbale dated 24 April 1992 advising on changes in procedural requirements for travel in the United States.

2. According to the note, effective immediately, staff members from Belarus and Ukraine "will no longer be required to request permission for private recreational travel". Similarly, there will be no restrictions for travel in the United States for staff members from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Estonia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

3. Staff members from the Russian Federation will no longer need to use the Office of Foreign Missions travel services but will still be required to submit requests for private recreational travel.

4. The Secretary-General, in his reply of 28 April 1992, welcomed these positive measures by the host country. Nevertheless, in view of the fact that travel restrictions continue to be in force with respect to staff members of certain nationalities, the Organization's well-known position of principle concerning the restrictive and discriminatory treatment of United Nations staff solely on the basis of their nationality has been reiterated to the United States Mission. The Secretary-General expressed the hope that all remaining travel restrictions would be removed by the host country as soon as possible.

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5. Copies of the two notes verbales are set out in annexes I and II to the present circular.

6. The existing arrangements for official travel will remain unchanged and will be made in the usual manner. Staff members will be kept informed of further developments in this matter.

Annex I

NOTE VERBALE DATED 24 APRIL 1992 FROM THE UNITED STATES MISSION ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The United States Mission to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to inform the Secretary-General of changes in procedural requirements for travel in the United States by members of certain missions to the United Nations and personnel of those affected nationalities at the United Nations. In addition, personnel ceilings at certain missions to the United Nations have also been removed.

Effective immediately, the following changes in travel control regulations and staffing limits on certain missions to the United Nations will take effect. All travel controls have been removed from the members of the Permanent Missions of Belarus and Ukraine to the United Nations. In addition, United Nations staff of those nationalities will no longer be required to request permission for private recreational travel.

Travel in the United States by members of the Permanent Missions to the United Nations from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Estonia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan will not be restricted. This applies to nationals of those States at the United Nations Secretariat.

Personnel of the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations are still required to submit travel notifications but are no longer required to use the Office of Foreign Missions travel services. Russian Federation personnel at the United Nations Secretariat will still be required to submit requests for private recreational travel, but will no longer need to use the Office of Foreign Missions travel services.

Staffing limitations for the Permanent Missions of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, contained in the United States Mission's note of 7 March 1986, have been removed.

Annex II

NOTE VERBALE DATED 28 APRIL 1992 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to the United States Mission to the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the latter's note verbale dated 24 April 1992 informing the United Nations of changes in travel control regulations and staffing limits on certain Permanent Missions to the United Nations.

It is noted that, "effective immediately", United Nations staff members from Belarus and Ukraine "will no longer be required to request permission for private recreational travel". Similarly, there will be no restrictions for travel in the United States for United Nations staff members from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Estonia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. These measures are also applicable to members of the Permanent Missions of the above-mentioned Member States, respectively.

It is further noted that as to staff members from the Russian Federation, they will no longer need to use the Office of Foreign Missions travel services but, however, will still be required to submit requests for private recreational travel.

The United States Mission's note verbale, furthermore, advises the Secretary-General that staffing limitations for the Permanent Missions of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine have also been removed.

The Secretary-General welcomes these positive measures taken by the United States.

However, in view of the fact that travel restrictions continue to be in force with respect to staff members of certain nationalities, the Secretary-General is obliged to reiterate his well-known position of principle concerning the restrictive and discriminatory treatment of United Nations staff solely on the basis of their nationality. In this connection, the Secretary-General wishes to express the hope that all remaining travel restrictions will be removed by the host country as soon as possible.

The existing arrangements regarding official travel in the United States remain unchanged and will be made in the usual manner.